

Non-ethanolic composition comprising a hydrofluoroether

The invention relates essentially to a non-ethanolic composition comprising a perfluorinated hydrofluoro ether and at least one co-solvent, other than water and ethanol, comprising a polyacid ester, and to its use in perfume compositions.

5        Such perfume compositions are preferably ethanol-free perfume compositions of which all the components are miscible with one another to give the composition the appearance of a clear liquid.

10        In perfume products (perfume, toilet water, etc.), the presence of alcohol (ethanol), which is used mainly as a solubilizer for the perfume concentrate, presents a number of problems well known to those skilled in the art. It is for this reason that research has been carried out for many years on perfume products which avoid the addition of alcohol by replacing it with other solubilizers.

15        As examples, reference may be made to the documents WO 99/18925 and US 5,468,725, which describe alcohol-free perfume compositions and respectively use silicones as solubilizer and the microemulsion technique.

One of the general problems which arise is the olfactory preservation of the perfume concentrate composition and especially the olfactory neutrality of the solubilizers used.

20        Furthermore, the document WO 99/11225 discloses cosmetic preparations in which the essential ingredients are at least 1% of hydrofluoro ether for the purpose of improving the tolerability of these compositions on the skin and improving the feel of the cosmetic product.

25        Also, the document WO 99/26600 discloses the use of perfluorinated hydrofluoro ethers as agents for dissolving aromatic compounds in the preparation of a cosmetic composition. On page 3, lines 21 to 25, said document envisages in general terms the possibility of adding at least one co-solvent, which is indicated as preferably being selected from the group comprising ethanol and water, i.e. in practice an aqueous-alcoholic mixture. The Examples given in said document all relate to the exclusive use of a hydroperfluoro ether for solubilizing essential oils.

30        The hydroperfluoro ethers mentioned are methoxynonafluorobutane, abbreviated to MNFB, in Examples 1 and 2, ethoxynonafluorobutane, abbreviated to ENFB, in Examples 3 to 8, and also propoxyundecafluoropentane.

A specific problem exists with perfume compositions, namely the necessary